

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for accounting for network usage comprising:

obtaining accounting start-stop event data from an accounting server;

obtaining network flow data independent from said accounting start-stop event data from a router within a network through an intermediary netflow collector, said network flow data including data regarding the number and type of packets utilized by a user; and

correlating said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data into a subscriber specific call detail record unique to said user by matching said accounting start-stop event data associated with said user with said network flow data associated with said user.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said obtaining accounting start-stop event data further comprises:

parsing said accounting start-stop event data from said accounting server on a prescribed time interval; and

publishing said accounting start-stop event data on an information bus.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said obtaining accounting start-stop event data further comprises:

collecting said accounting start-stop event data at a target device that subscribes to said accounting start-stop event data.

4. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein said obtaining accounting start-stop event data further comprises:

collecting said accounting start-stop event data at a target device that subscribes to said accounting start-stop event data.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said obtaining network flow data further comprises:

aggregating said network flow data at said network flow collector according to a service provider defined aggregation scheme.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein aggregating said network flow data further comprises:

basing aggregation of said network flow data on a specified time period.

7. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein aggregating said network flow data further comprises:

basing aggregation of said network flow data on the Internet Protocol Layer 3 source address.

8. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein aggregating said network flow data further comprises:

basing aggregation of said network flow data on the Internet Protocol Layer 4 destination address.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said obtaining network flow data further comprises:

filtering said network flow data at said network flow collector according to a service provider defined filtration scheme.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said obtaining network flow data further comprises:

collecting said network flow data from said a router and forwarding said network flow data to said network flow collector;

aggregating said network flow data according to a defined aggregation scheme;

parsing said network flow data from said network flow collector;

publishing said network flow data on an information bus.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein said obtaining network flow data further comprises:

filtering said network flow data according to a service provider defined filtration scheme.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said correlating said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data further comprises:

reforming said call detail record to meet post-correlated applications.

13. (Previously Presented) A method for accounting for network usage comprising:

parsing accounting start-stop event data from an accounting server on a prescribed time interval;

publishing said accounting start-stop event data on an information bus;

collecting network flow data independent from said accounting start-stop event data from a network router and forwarding said network flow data to a network flow collector, said network flow data including data regarding the number and type of packets utilized by a user;

aggregating said network flow data according to a prescribed aggregation scheme;

parsing said network flow data from said network flow collector;

publishing said network flow data on an information bus;

collecting said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data at a target device that subscribes to said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data; and

correlating said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data into a subscriber specific call detail record unique to said user by matching said accounting start-stop event data associated with said user with said network flow data associated with said user.

14. (Canceled).

15 (Previously Presented) An apparatus for accounting for network usage comprising:

a means for obtaining accounting start-stop event data from an accounting server;

a means for obtaining network flow data independent from said accounting start-stop event data from a router within a network through an intermediary netflow collector, said network flow data including data regarding the number and type of packets utilized by a user; and

a means for correlating said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data into a subscriber specific call detail record unique to said user by matching said accounting start-stop event data associated with said user with said network flow data associated with said user.

16. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for accounting for network usage comprising:
- means for parsing accounting start-stop event data from an accounting server on a prescribed time interval;
 - means for publishing said accounting start-stop event data on an information bus;
 - means for collecting network flow data independent from said accounting start-stop event data from a network router and forwarding said network flow data to a network flow collector, said network flow data including data regarding the number and type of packets utilized by a user;
 - means for aggregating said network flow data according to a prescribed aggregation scheme;
 - means for parsing said network flow data from said network flow collector;
 - means for publishing said network flow data on an information bus;
 - means for collecting said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data at a target device that subscribes to said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data;
 - and
 - means for correlating said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data into a subscriber specific call detail record unique to said user by matching said accounting start-stop event data associated with said user with said network flow data associated with said user.

17. (Canceled).

18. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for accounting for network usage comprising:
- an accounting adapter in communication with accounting start-stop event data;

a network flow adapter in communication with network flow data independent from said accounting start-stop event data, said network flow data including data regarding the number and type of packets utilized by a user; and

an integrating accounting adapter in communication with said accounting adapter and said network flow adapter, wherein said integrating accounting adapter correlates said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data into a subscriber specific call detail record unique to said user by matching said accounting start-stop event data associated with said user with said network flow data associated with said user.

19-22. (Canceled).

23. (Previously Presented) A program storage device readable by a machine tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for accounting for network usage, said method comprising:

obtaining accounting start-stop event data from an accounting server;

obtaining network flow data independent from said accounting start-stop event data from a router within a network through an intermediary netflow collector, said network flow data including data regarding the number and type of packets utilized by a user; and

correlating said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data into a subscriber specific call detail record unique to said user by matching said accounting start-stop event data associated with said user with said network flow data associated with said user.

24-35. (Canceled).